AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing below of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended: A method for granting access to a restricted area, said method comprising the steps of:

transmitting to a central computer containing access codes a request by a user of a portable radio terminal for an access code;

transmitting a stored access code from ~~a~~ the central computer via radio waves to ~~a~~ the portable radio terminal possessed by ~~a~~ the user;

transmitting ~~the access code~~ from the portable radio terminal over a short-range radio link to ~~an~~ a transmitter unit associated with a restricted area to which access is sought by the user the access code received by the portable radio terminal from the central computer;

transmitting the access code from ~~a~~ the transmitter unit associated with the restricted area to the central computer; and

comparing in the central computer the ~~received~~ access code received from the transmitter unit associated with the restricted area with the stored access code that the central computer transmitted to the radio terminal, to allow access to the restricted area when the ~~received~~ access code received from the transmitter unit associated with the restricted area corresponds with the stored access code.

Claim 2 (previously presented: A method according to claim 1, including the step of transmitting from the central computer an access code to the radio terminal when an inquiry for an access code is transmitted to the central computer by at least one of a communication device associated with the restricted area and the radio terminal.

Claim 3 (previously presented: A method according to claim 1, wherein the radio terminal is a mobile telephone constituting one component of said short-range radio link.

Claim 4 (previously presented: A method according to claim 1, wherein the short-range radio link is an RFID link.

Claim 5 (previously presented: A method according to claim 1, wherein the short-range radio link is a Bluetooth link.

Claim 6 (previously presented: A method according to claim 1, wherein the restricted area is a computer terminal to which access is desired.

Claim 7 (previously presented: A method according to claim 1, wherein the restricted area is a closed entryway to which access is desired so that it can be opened.

Claim 8 (previously presented: A method according to claim 1, wherein the restricted area includes a device for comparing the access code received from the central computer and the access code received from the radio terminal.

Claim 9 (previously presented: A method according to claim 1, including the steps of: providing at the restricted area a communicator connected to the central computer by a communications link; and communicating from the communicator at short range with the radio terminal by at least one of an RFID link and a Bluetooth link.

Claim 10 (previously presented: A method according to claim 9, wherein the access code transmitted from the restricted area to the central computer includes a network address associated with the restricted area.

Claim 11 (previously presented: A method according to claim 1, including the step of utilizing the access code to encrypt information that is transmitted from the restricted area to the central computer.

Claim 12 (previously presented): A method according to claim 1, including the steps of: providing a reading device for reading biometric data associated with the user, and transmitting user-associated biometric data from the restricted area to the central computer.